A committee to investigate into the causes of floods in the Presidency.

*114 *Q.*—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the resolution of Mr. B. Das in the Legislative Assembly regarding appointment of a committee to investigate into causes of floods in India has been forwarded to the Local Government for inquiry and report; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to appoint a committee for this purpose in this province?

A.—(*a*) The Government of India have forwarded to this Government a copy of the debate in the Legislative Assembly on the resolution referred to and the points raised in the debate have been noted.

(*b*) No.

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo:—"Beyond noting the points raised in the debate, do the Government propose to enquire into the matter?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"The Government of India have frequently offered to advise us on very many points such as the relation of the floods to the railway embankments and so on, but it is generally considered by this Government that what is wanted is not so much advice as money."

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo:—"Do the Government propose to send any report at all on the subject?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Of course, yes."

TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

Second crop zone in the Godavari Western delta.

*115 *Q.*—Mr. M. SEETAYYA: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any proposals for the formation of a second crop zone in the Godavari Western delta; and

(*b*) whether the Government will be pleased to place their orders on the table?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Final orders when passed will be placed on Editors' Table.

Mr. M. SEETAYYA (in Telugu):—"May I know whether the Government would be able to pass orders before the close of the current fasli?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"It is difficult to say, but we hope to expedite the orders."

Second crop zone in the Godavari Western delta.

*116 *Q.*—Mr. M. SEETAYYA: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state how long the proposals for the formation of a second crop zone have been under consideration and when final orders are likely to be passed on the same?

[5th February 1925

Baling in the Periyar irrigation system.

* 111 *Q.*—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether baling is a recognized method of irrigation in Periyar irrigation system; and

(*b*) if so, why permission for baling to certain lands and gardens under the channel or tank or on the margin of the waterspread of the tank is refused?

A.—(*a*) The Periyar sytem is designed to work with direct flow. Baling is therefore not a recognized factor in the system.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"With regard to clause (*a*), may I know whether baling is allowed in certain cases at least in the Periyar system?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"It might have been allowed as a matter of practice, but it is not recognised that baling can be allowed as a question of right."

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"Is any special tax imposed in such cases?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. V. C. VELLINGIRI GOUNDER:—"In answer to a question which I put last time, the Government admitted that there was supply of water in the Periyar system for further extension of irrigation up to 10,000 acres or so. Do not Government consider that baling is a more economical way of irrigation? What is the objection of the Government in allowing this baling?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Baling is economical for the parties concerned perhaps, but it may give rise to very serious positions if by baling water is taken away elsewhere from quarters which are entitled to water."

Mr. V. C. VELLINGIRI GOUNDER:—"The extent may be limited by permission in each case, because we have experience of such conditions allowed in certain areas in channels and river margins where permission is given for baling; and the Engineering Department can very well support my view that baling is more economical as it restricts itself to a certain area, and the area which can be commanded by baling would not be of a very large extent. So why not baling be allowed? It would not in any way lessen the supply to the existing lands as it has already been admitted that there is enough supply for further extension of irrigation up to 10,000 acres."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"That theory will be investigated by the Chief Engineer, Sir."

Agreement regarding Nilayur channel in Madura district.

* 112 *Q.*—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether an agreement was entered into between the Government and the ryots with regard to Nilayur channel in Madura district;

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will lay on the table a copy of the agreement;